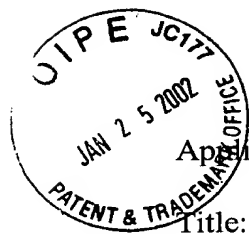


#4

Atty. Dkt. No. 043034-0165



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kazuo OGORO

Title: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS WITH BACKLIGHTING DEVICE

Appl. No.: 09/773,596

Filing Date: 02/02/2001

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 2673

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JAN 3 0 2002

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO-1449 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding British application. A copy of the British Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner.

English-language translations of documents B2-B4 are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609). English-language abstracts are attached for documents B2-B4.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 25, 2002

FOLEY & LARDNER
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